

lated with the number of ovules formed and the number of seeds which are beginning to develop, just as they are known to be in matured pods of other forms,¹ and that in consequence the maintenance of a foothold and ovoposition are easier in such pods. That is, however merely a suggested hypothesis which must be confirmed or disproved by actual behavior studies.

No relationship between the position which a seed occupies in the pod and its liability to parasitization has as yet been demonstrated.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Shooting Insects with a Bean-Shooter.—The easiest way to collect some cicadas is to shoot them with fine shot. But the carrying of a pistol for the purpose is apt to get one in trouble in some communities, for in many places a license to carry firearms is required. As yet there is no such restriction on carrying a bean-shooter, and when properly made it can be used most effectively in collecting certain wary insects, like several species of dragonflies. The bean-shooter or sling, is made with the forked stick and rubber bands in the usual way, but the leather bag should have a well secured stitch on each end, so that it will hold several hundred fine shot. Armed with this contraption the entomologist may repair to the side of a pond or stream, and as some desirable though tantalizing dragonfly sails by just out of the reach of the ordinary net, it may be shot on the wing. The insect will probably fall into the water, but may be rescued with a long stick, or one can go in wading for it. If a dragonfly keeps out of the reach of a net to its own advantage, it generally does another thing greatly to its disadvantage, and that is, it will repeatedly fly by the same spot, thus giving the collector several chances.

With a bean-shooter made after the above described plan, the writer this past summer shot a number of dragonflies, both on Long Island and on Staten Island, and only in two instances were the insects at all damaged. In the majority the effects of the shot were not noticeable.

As to the shooting of cicadas, a correspondent to whom I had

¹ Harris, J. Arthur, *Bot. Gaz.*, 50: 117-127, 1910; *loc. cit.*, 53: 204-218, 396-414, 1912.

recommended this mode of collecting, writes that he used an old gun loaded with powder and dry sand. The insect he says is often only stunned, and falls out of the tree, but before it can recover itself sufficiently to fly away, it may be picked up and bottled.—

WILLIAM T. DAVIS.

Coccinella transversoguttata, Trichodes nuttalli, and Malachius æneus.—*Coccinella transversoguttata* was found on Staten Island in July, 1915, by C. W. Leng, Jr., and has also been found at Deep Pond, near Wading River, Long Island, by Wm. T. Davis. Its range has long been known as transcontinental in northern regions; but appears by the records cited and others made by Lewis B. Woodruff to actually extend southward as far as New York City. It has already been noted as occurring, though not common at several localities in Connecticut (Conn. Exp. Sta. Bull. 181) by Dr. W. E. Britton.

Trichodes nuttalli is another northern species which was found on Staten Island in July by C. W. Leng, Jr. The single specimen was found while sweeping the low meadows between Grasmere and South Beach in company with Wm. T. Davis. The species is not uncommon in the northern part of the state and has been taken by R. P. Dow in Sullivan Co., and in Ulster Co.

Malachius æneus. To the distribution records for this species may be added White Plains, N. Y., June, one specimen found by Mr. J. R. de la Torre Bueno, and Batavia, N. Y., abundant, found by Mr. H. H. Knight.—C. W. LENG.